

R E M A R K S

The claims in the case are claims 1-8. The claims were amended in the preliminary examination. The claims have been amended further to eliminate multiple dependency and to put them in better form for U.S. filing.

No new matter is included.

Favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

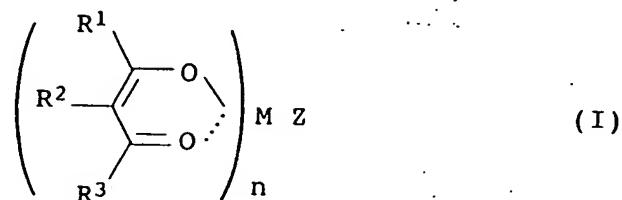
KEIL & WEINKAUF


Herbert B. Keil
Reg. No. 18,967

1350 Connecticut Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

(202)659-0100

1. (original) A process for preparing polyoxymethylene by contacting a formaldehyde source with a catalyst of the formula I



where

M is TiO , ZrO , HfO , VO , CrO_2 , MoO_2 , WO_2 , MnO_2 , ReO_2 , Fe , Ru , Co , Rh , Ir , Ni , Pd , Pt , Cu , Zn , Cd , Hg , Sn , SnO or PbO ;

R^1 , R^2 and R^3 are each independently a radical which is selected from H, alkyl, aryl and aralkyl, and the radical may be partly or fully halogenated;

Z is an anion; and

n is 1 or 2.

2. (original) A process as claimed in claim 1 where

M is MoO_2 or WO_2 .

3. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1 any of
the preceding claims where

R^1 , R^2 and R^3 are each independently H, C_1-C_6 -alkyl which may
be partly or fully halogenated, phenyl, benzyl or
naphthyl.

4. (original) A process as claimed in claim 3 where R^1 and R^3 are
each independently methyl, tert-butyl, trifluoromethyl,
pentafluoroethyl, heptafluoropropyl, phenyl or naphthyl.

5. (original) A process as claimed in claim 4 where R^2 is H or
methyl.

6. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1 any of
the preceding claims where

Z is a halide, sulfonate of the formula OSO_2R , where R is
alkyl, partly or fully halogenated alkyl or aryl,
complexed borate, complexed phosphate, complexed arsenate
or complexed antimonate.

7. (original) A process as claimed in claim 6 where

Z is OSO_2CF_3 or chloride.

8. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1 any of
the preceding claims where the formaldehyde source is

CLAIMS 53406

formaldehyde, trioxane or paraformaldehyde.